

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES  
To the TMDL for Diazinon in the Chollas Creek Watershed  
June 12, 2002**

Following the fourth public workshop on the draft TMDL (held May 17, 2002), Regional Board staff conducted a series of four follow-up meetings with all known responsible parties and interested stakeholders (on May 27, June 4, June 5, and June 10, 2002). Meeting participants included representatives of the City of San Diego, City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, San Diego Unified Port District, CALTRANS, San Diego Baykeeper, Sierra Club, US Navy, and NASSCO Shipbuilding Corporation. The Environmental Health Coalition was invited but unable to attend.

The purpose of each of these meetings was to provide a forum for staff to listen to the concerns and issues of the stakeholders and to attempt to address each of the issues in advance of the June 12, 2002 public hearing. **As a result of these meetings (1) staff has addressed all of the concerns raised by interested parties; (2) several important changes have been made to the draft; and (3) all parties have indicated their general support for the revised TMDL.** Four significant changes and clarifications to the draft are summarized below:

**1. Fully Consistent With MS4 Permit**

The TMDL has been modified to make clear that it is fully consistent with, and complementary to the San Diego MS4 permit. With one exception, all of the requirements of the TMDL are existing requirements of the MS4 permit (i.e., the TMDL requirements represent a small subset of the MS4 permit requirements). In particular the TMDL makes clear that the Best Management Practices Program, the Public Education Program, and the Monitoring Program which are already underway (or under development) pursuant to the MS4 permit will also meet the corresponding requirements of this TMDL. Similarly the reporting requirements of the TMDL do not necessitate the development of "new reports". Rather that Copermitees may simply extract from their comprehensive MS4 reports that information pertaining to their diazinon reduction efforts in the Chollas Creek watershed.

The effect of the TMDL is to focus additional attention and resources on the diazinon induced toxicity in Chollas Creek for the purpose of eliminating or reducing the toxicity. And while all of the TMDL requirements are MS4 requirements, the TMDL also requires the Chollas Creek watershed Copermitees to do more (than is required to address other pollutants in the County). Most importantly, the TMDL requires the Chollas Creek watershed Copermitees to eventually meet numeric limitations for diazinon in Chollas Creek.

## **2. Addition of Phased Compliance Schedule**

The draft TMDL has been modified to provide a phased compliance schedule. The purpose of the phased compliance schedule is to provide a grace period during which Chollas Creek watershed Copermittees would not be required to meet the numeric limitations for diazinon at all times. Generally, the compliance schedule will be coordinated with the timing of USEPA's national program to phase out diazinon production and use. The specifics of the compliance schedule are to be developed by way of a collaborative effort involving Regional Board staff and the stakeholders within a period of one year from the date of Regional Board adoption of the TMDL. This compliance schedule will be incorporated into the MS4 permit at the time that the permit is modified to include numeric limitations for diazinon in accordance with the TMDL. The draft TMDL makes clear that the phased compliance schedule applies only to the attainment of the numeric limitations and not to implementation actions required by the TMDL or MS4 permit.

## **3. Clarification of Monitoring Program**

The monitoring program requirements in the draft TMDL have been be modified to reflect the following:

- Increased flexibility (e.g. station locations and sampling frequencies are "recommended" rather than required)
- Consistent with the MS4 permit, water column samples are be analyzed for diazinon and toxicity. Additional Toxicity Identification Evaluations (TIEs) may be required if toxicity remains after diazinon and metal concentrations meet their respective TMDLs. Limited sediment samples in Chollas Creek will be analyzed for diazinon concentrations.

## **4. Elimination of Comprehensive Source Analysis**

The requirement for the Copermittees to conduct a comprehensive source analysis in the Chollas Creek watershed has been removed. The rationale for removal of this requirement is (1) a recently released paper presents the findings of a toxicity source analysis in Chollas Creek during the period of 1999-2001 (MEC Analytical, 2002); and (2) resources are believed better spent on public education and best management practices to reduce diazinon in the watershed.